

**In the Claims**

Applicant has submitted a new complete claim set indicating marked-up claims with insertions and deletions indicated by underlining and strikeouts, respectively.

Please amend pending claims 1, 8, 12, and 33 as noted below.

Please cancel claims 5-7, 10, 20-30, 32, 34-46, and 48-72.

1. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an essential oil in a gel carrier, said essential oil being obtained from a plant selected from the genera Salvia, Artemisia, Citrus, Juniperus, Laurus, Myristica, Origanum, Piper or Aloysia, said gel carrier being a synthetic gelling agent based on glyceryl polymethacrylate and propylene glycol, and said composition being for use in the treatment of a human or animal having a parasitic insect infestation.

2. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the concentration of essential oil is from about 0.1 to about 50% w/v of the composition.

3. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 2 wherein the concentration of essential oil is from about 0.1 to about 8% w/v of the composition.

4. (Previously Presented) A composition as claimed in claim 2 wherein the concentration of essential oil is about 4% w/v of the composition.

5-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 1 ~~5~~ wherein the gelling agent contains about 0.1 to about 95% ~~, preferably about 0.1 to about 66%~~ water v/v and/or alcohol, ~~preferably isopropyl alcohol (IPA) at about 0.1% to about 20% v/v.~~

9. (Previously Presented) A composition as claimed in claim1 wherein said essential oil is obtained from Salvia lavandulifolia or Salvia officinalis.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1 which includes essential oil obtained from the plant genera Salvia and Citrus.

12. (Presently Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 9 which comprises the essential oil of Salvia lavandulifolia at about 4% w/v dispersed in a gel, said gel being diluted about 1:2 v/v with water.

13. (Previously Presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1 comprising an anti-pruritic agent.

14. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 13 wherein said anti-pruritic agent is Aloe vera.

15. (Previously Presented) A composition as claimed in claim 13 wherein said composition includes Aloe vera gel.

16. (Previously Presented) A composition as claimed in claim 13 which comprises about 0.1 to about 5.0% w/v Aloe vera gel.

17. (Previously Presented) A composition as claimed in claim 13 which comprises about 0.5% w/v Aloe vera gel.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) A method of treating a human or animal suffering from a parasitic insect infestation comprising applying to said human or animal a composition as claimed in claim 1.

20-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) A composition for use as claimed in claim 1 wherein said parasitic insects are selected from lice, lice eggs, mites, or fleas ~~or parasites associated with blowfly strike.~~

34-72. (Cancelled)

73. (New) The composition of claim 5, wherein the gelling agent contains about 0.1 to 66% water v/v and/or alcohol.

74. (New) The composition of claim 5, wherein the alcohol is isopropyl alcohol at about 0.1 to 20% v/v.

75. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an essential oil and an anti-pruritic in a gel carrier, said essential oil being obtained from a plant selected from the genera *Salvia*, *Artemisia*, *Citrus*, *Juniperus*, *Laurus*, *Myristica*, *Origanum*, *Piper* or *Aloysia*, said anti-pruritic agent being *Aloe vera*, and said composition being for use in the treatment of a human or animal having a parasitic insect infestation.

76. (New) The composition of claim 75, wherein the concentration of essential oil is from about 0.1 to about 50% w/v of the composition.

77. (New) The composition of claim 76, wherein the concentration of essential oil from about 0.1 to 8% w/v of the composition.

78. (New) The composition of claim 76, wherein the concentration of essential oil is about 4% w/v of the composition.

79. (New) The composition of claim 75, wherein the gel is based on agar, agarose, gelatine or a synthetic gelling agent.

80. (New) The composition of claim 79, wherein the synthetic gelling agent is a gel based on glyceryl polymethacrylate and propylene glycol.

81. (New) The composition of claim 79, wherein the gel is a carbomer.

82. (New) The composition of claim 79, wherein the gelling agent contains about 0.1 to about 95% water v/v and/or alcohol.

83. (New) The composition of claim 82 wherein the gelling agent contains about 0.1 to 66% water v/v and/or alcohol.

84. (New) The composition of claim 82, wherein the alcohol is isopropyl alcohol at about 0.1 to 20% v/v.

85. (New) The composition of claim 75, wherein said essential oil is obtained from *Salvia lavandulifolia* or *Salvia officinalis*.

86. (New) The composition of claim 75, wherein said essential oil is obtained from a plant of the genera *Citrus*.

87. (New) The composition of claim 75, which includes essential oil obtained from the plant genera *Salvia* and *Citrus*.

88. (New) The composition of claim 85, which comprises the essential oil of *Salvia lavandulifolia* at about 4% w/v dispersed in a gel, said gel being diluted about 1:2 v/v with water.

89. (New) The composition of claim 75, wherein said composition includes *Aloe vera* gel.
90. (New) The composition of claim 75, which comprises about 0.1 to 5.0% w/v *Aloe vera* gel.
91. (New) The composition of claim 75, which comprises about 0.5% w/v *Aloe vera* gel.
92. (New) A method of treating a human or animal suffering from a parasitic insect infestation comprising applying to said human or animal a composition as claimed in claim 1.
93. (New) The composition of claim 75, wherein said parasitic insects are selected from lice, lice eggs, mites or fleas.